

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 240760

EXDIS TOSEC 502

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, INFO ABU DHABI, AMMAN, CAIRO,
DAMASCUS, JIDDA, MANAMA, MUSCAT, TEL AVIV, NOV 1, FROM KUWAIT
RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE S E C R E T KUWAIT 4660

EXDIS

FROM PAGANELLI EMBASSY DOHA

EO 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: PFOR XF US

SUBJ: GUIDANCE ON SECRETARY'S MID EAST TRIP--AMIR OF QATAR'S
VIEWS

REF: STATE 230802

1. I CONVEYED REFTEL GUIDANCE ON SECRETARY'S MID EAST TRIP
TO AMIR OF QATAR SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI ON OCT
23. IN GENERAL RESPONSE, AMIR INDICATED HIS FULL AWARENESS
OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE OF ARAB SUMMIT AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT
HE EXPECTED CONFERENCE TO BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. AMIR NOTED
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THAT HE HAD RECEIVED MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT SADAT VIA ASHRAF

MARWAN, WHO VISITED DOHA OCT 21, AND FROM PRESIDENT ASAD VIA SYRIAN AMBASSADOR HERE, RE SUMMIT AND SECRETARY'S VISIT.

2. ACCORDING KHALIFA, BOTH SADAT AND ASAD SHARED HIS ESTIMATE OF TOUGH CONFERENCE SESSION. HE SAID FOCUS OF ATTENTION WOULD BE ISRAEL'S APPARENT RIGIDITY RE FURTHER WITHDRAWAL FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, ALTHOUGH GOI HAD INDICATED MORE FLEXIBILITY ON BOTH SINAI AND WEST BANK. KHALIFA ASSERTED THAT SYRIANS WERE INSISTING, JUSTIFIABLY IN HIS VIEW, THAT WITHDRAWALS IN SINAI AND WEST BANK MUST BE PARALLELED WITH FURTHER WITHDRAWALS FROM GOLAN. HE SAID SYRIANS LEGITIMATELY FEARED THAT IF THEY WERE LEFT OUT OF NEXT WITHDRAWAL STAGE, THEY WOULD BE DANGEROUSLY EXPOSED BOTH POLITICALLY AND MILITARILY.

3. I REPLIED THAT IT WAS US VIEW THAT IT WAS UP TO THE PARTIES TO DECIDE HOW THEY WISHED TO PROCEED DURING NEXT STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS, EITHER IN SEQUENCE OR SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND IF PARTIES OPTED FOR SIMULTANEOUS PROCEDURE, SYRIAN/ISRAELI TALKS COULD GO FORWARD AT SAME TIME AS ISRAELI/EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI/JORDANIAN TALKS. I THEN ASKED KHALIFA FOR HIS REACTION TO OUR VIEW THAT JORDAN SHOULD CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL ON WEST BANK, WITH PALESTINIANS' INTEREST BEING TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT. KHALIFA REPLIED THAT THIS WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO SELL, ALTHOUGH HE APPRECIATED LOGIC OF OUR POSITION AND WAS FULLY AWARE OF GOI'S DOMESTIC PROBLEM IN THIS REGARD.

4. I STRESSED TO KHALIFA OUR APPRECIATION OF IMPORTANCE OF SUMMIT IN CREATING ATMOSPHERE FOR FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACE AND US EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SETTLEMENT. I URGED THAT HE SUPPORT FULLY OTHER ARAB MODERATES AT CONFERENCE TO ASSURE POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME. HE REITERATED HIS AWARENESS OF HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES OF ARAB LEADERS AT SUMMIT, AND SAID HE WOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH KING FAYSAL AND PRESIDENT SADAT. HE SAID HE HAD PLANNED TO GO TO RABAT A DAY EARLY SO THAT HE COULD OBTAIN A FIRST-HAND ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT ATTITUDES AMONG ARAB LEADERS, BUT OFFICIAL VISIT OF UAE PRESIDENT SHAYKH ZAYID TO DOHA HAD DELAYED HIS DEPARTURE UNTIL OCT 25. IN ANY EVENT, HE BELIEVED THAT INFLUENCE OF SADAT AND FAYSAL WOULD BE DETERMINING FACTOR FOR CONFERENCE, RESULTING IN STEP FORWARD TOWARD PEACE. RE POSSIBLE "SPOILERS", HE SAID HE HAD REPORT
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THAT QADHAFI WOULD NOT (RPT NOT) BE ATTENDING. HE CONCLUDED REITERATING HIS FIRM CONVICTION THAT THE SOLE MEANS OF REACHING MID EAST SETTLEMENT WAS THROUGH NEGOTIATION PROCESS; ONLY ALTERNATIVE, HE SAID, WAS CHAOS WHICH COULD ENGULF NOT ONLY MID EAST BUT ENTIRE WORLD.

5. KHALIFA'S COMMENTS ON OIL PRICES AND GULF AFFAIRS BEING REPORTED IN SEPTELS. STOLTZFUS UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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